

REF

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Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Department of Genetics  
University of Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg

I am sorry for not writing to you sooner.  
I think you are enjoying the best of your health  
and are much successful in your studies.

The review which I promised has been  
published <sup>in Japanese journal of medical prognosis</sup> and I sent it by separate mail.  
Bacterial genetics is yet unfamiliar in Japan,  
so my review has been well received. For  
example, Prof. Akiba (Tokyo Univ.) and Prof.  
Kikkawa (Osaka Univ.) etc. wrote to my  
words of praise. I'm deeply indebted to  
you for your kindness.

Prof. Kikkawa says to me that he will  
recommend me to receive Yukawa-scholarship,  
if I am willing to study at his laboratory.  
( You may know Prof. Yukawa who is the  
famous physician and has received Nobel-  
price. Prof. Yukawa offers a scholarship  
to support promising young student in Japan.)  
This invitation is too much for me, but  
I have not answered him yet. Because,  
I am responsible now for the study of  
Enterobacteriaceal under Dr. H. Fukumi,

Chief of Bact. Division, N. I. H., and so I can't change my position for time being. But, I will devote my life to the study of microbial genetics, so I should like to be in close connection with you and Prof. Kikkawa.

And also I hope that I may be able to study at your laboratory someday. Expecting the coming of such an opportunity, I'm taking lessons in English conversation.

My present studies are as follows.

- 1) Availing conjugatable Shigella strains which I have discovered last year, I obtained some biochemical mutants. I am increasing their Markers moreover to make the detailed chromosome-map.
- 2) I got some mutants of Salmonella strains I'm studying their gene-recombination. This study will support my idea that phase variation of Salmonella H-antigens is explainable by the multiple alleles.
- 3) I am measuring the mutation rates of some genes of Shigella and Salmonella.
- 4) Study of the amino-acid metabolism of Shigella.
- 5) Soon I am intending to start the extraction of DNA from Shigella.
- 6) I have almost completed the translation of the article "The Theory of Rate Processes and Gene Mutation" published by W. D. McElroy and C. P. Swanson in the Quarterly Review of Biology 1951, 26, 348 ~ 363.

The Section of Microbial Genetics will be organized in order to receive the subsidy from the Ministry of Education, Japan. But I shall fail to enter my name as a member of the Section, because I am too young (I'm 28 years old). I shall be able to receive the subsidy through my chief, Dr. H. Fukami who will be one of the members of the said organization.

Many thanks for your reprint published in Cold Spring Harbor Symp. 1951.

I would appreciate very much to receive your articles which will be published from now on, and I hope that your warm and constant leadership may continue on me.

Please extend my best wishes to Mrs. Lederberg and Dr. Zinder.

Very sincerely yours,  
Tetsu Nakayama M.D.